

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

K. Freier et al.

Serial No.: not yet assigned

Examiner: not yet assigned

Filing Date: January 23, 2002

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A COLD-ROLLED STRIP OR SHEET OF STEEL AND STRIP OR SHEET WHICH CAN BE PRODUCED BY THE PROCESS

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, and 17 as follows:

3. Process according to Claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that the strip is cooled to $\leq 150^{\circ}\text{C}$ after the recrystallizing annealing while coiled and subsequently subjected to brief annealing at the temperature T for an annealing period of ≤ 20 minutes by reheating the uncoiled strip.

4. Process according to [one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 3], characterized in that the annealing period of the brief annealing is chosen between 2 minutes and 5 minutes.

5. Process according to [one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 4], characterized in that the cooling from the temperature T is performed at a cooling rate of $\geq 2^{\circ}\text{C/s}$.

6. Process according to [one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 5], characterized in that the strip or sheet is dressed before the brief annealing.

7. Process according to [one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 6], characterized in that the strip or sheet is dressed after the brief annealing.

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